

ber of students, who may enter the college for the purpose of learning French only, paying each at the rate of £.9 10 0 per annum.

It is in the school of languages that the plan of education has been most fully and carefully delineated. There is not here room to detail the whole system. Suffice it to say, that the greatest attention, during the whole course, is to be paid to grammar, in all its branches, to translation of Latin into English, and to compositions in both languages.

The last, but not the least, important thing to be mentioned, is the art of speaking. True, it is, that we have no professor of oratory. But arrangements are made for having each student trained to this most desirable, useful art; and we refer to the exhibitions which have taken place to prove, that this art has not been unsuccessfully taught, or rather practised, in St. John's college.

From a conviction that St. John's college, if properly conducted, would afford important benefits to the State, the subscribers, and their associates, accepted a trust, which has occupied no inconsiderable portion of their time and attention. Nobody, in the beginning, could suppose, that all the youths on the western shore of Maryland, whose parents or guardians could bear the expence, might be educated at St. John's college. A discerning patriotic legislature had perceived, that one college at least on each shore of the State was requisite to keep up a succession of honest men to discharge the various offices in society. It was also expedient to prevent the sons of wealth from being sent out, and it was of no small consequence to retain money, in the State. They recollected instances in which promising youths had formed attachments abroad, and had been in consequence wholly lost to their native country. In short, the foundation of St. John's college was a measure which denoted the wisdom of a legislature, acting on the extensive scale of public good; and not tedious only of the interests of the place in which a college might be fixed, by its trustees, at their first meetings.

The college, erected on the eastern shore, was proposed and advocated on the express principle of the incompetency of the county schools, which had been instituted under the proprietary government; and the funds of several of those schools were consolidated with the funds of Washington college.—Who then could have foreseen, or even imagined, that neither of the colleges would be permitted to retain its nativity, and spread its reputation, before the idea should revive of having a public endowed school in each county; and that to county schools should be sacrificed the colleges.—It is impossible that a man of true public spirit can be opposed to the erection of those schools; provided only that they can be properly conducted. If they cannot, the public treasure is wasted, and individuals may suffer an irreparable injury. But the foundation of those schools, or academies, formed by the union of two or more counties, does not necessarily demand the destruction of either of the colleges; nor could any possible public benefit result from the suppression of those sacred institutions. Assuredly, it will not be alleged, that Maryland is overstocked with seminaries of learning; and if it really be contemplated to destroy St. John's college for the advantage of one or more inferior institutions, the plan is one of the most liberal, delusive plans, that ever was conceived. Can it be supposed that the advantage of localities will ever be overlooked? And if St. John's college be obnoxious, because its advantages are enjoyed chiefly by the citizens of Annapolis, can the proprietors or patrons of any other more favoured seminary flatter themselves that, in the end, a similar opposition will not be made to their darling institution?—No! the sad truth is, that selfishness in numerous forms, at all times, and in all places, not only is at variance with general good, but often blindly exposes and defeats its own purposes.—Suffer us to repeat, and let it never be forgotten, that St. John's college was instituted for great national purposes; and that, although the lustre of its name has of late been tarnished by the prevalence of certain malignant reports, we doubt not, that in a short time, its reputation will be fully retrieved. The good sense of our dispassionate fellow-citizens will convince them, on a candid perusal of this address, and a careful inquiry concerning facts, that no university, college or academy, in America, can afford advantages to a student superior to those at this moment afforded by St. John's college.

We run little risk of contradiction in alleging, that no seminary in the United States, possesses a principal, or superintendant, whose qualifications and merit are superior to those of Mr. McDowell, or professors and teachers, with whom their employers have better reason to be satisfied, than are the trustees of St. John's college with their several professors and teachers.

May we not then reasonably insist, that a seminary like St. John's college, is become more useful, instead of becoming unnecessary, from the institution of county schools and academies? Its trustees we may presume to declare, are men of information and character. It may therefore be deemed secure of the inestimable advantage of a proper superintendance. In spite of all that is, or may be said, it is capable of affording good models and examples; and if suffered to subsist, agreeably to the ideas of its founders, it will most certainly afford a choice of able teachers to fill all vacancies in the country schools, &c.

To conclude them.—In behalf of the body of visitors and governors of St. John's college, the subscribers, in effect, ask no more, than that their fellow-citizens, who are to decide its fate, or to give their opinions concerning it, will attend to no suggestions,

except those of strict justice, national honour, sound policy, and patriotism.

A. C. HANSON,
CHARLES CARROLL, of Carrollton,
RICHARD RIDGELY.

N. B. Each printer in Maryland is requested to insert in his paper the above address. If he shall think proper to require a compensation for the same, the subscribers, on behalf of the college, agree to pay him for inserting it three weeks successively the sum of six dollars, and no more.

A. C. HANSON,
R. RIDGELY.

FOR THE MARYLAND GAZETTE.

Philo-Scandal—No. II.

"Shall I not talk? Few Politics will read,
"And SCANDAL sure deserves a better meed—
"Yet write I will, in spite of foe or friend,
"Then Ladies pray my Hero's life defend."

AND now, after recurring to my old book of proverbs, and finding the stale adage, that "silence gives consent," I am again induced to come forward, and utter my friend to the more particular notice of his dear fellow-citizens. Even slight sketches of characters, remarkable for talents and erudition, have ever been received by the world with avidity, and it is not unusual, should they ever arrive at the acmé of human perfection, or sink to the lowest degradation of vice, for cities, nay whole countries, to contend for the place of their nativity. Such is the memorable example of the celebrated Homer, in ancient times, and the long agitated cause of Jonathan Robbins, of Hermione memory, in our own day.—But this case is widely different.—The city of Annapolis has the undoubted and indisputable title to the birth, education and instruction, of the hero, whose life (or rather the most important events of it,) I intend to give in his own words, delivered during a severe illness, from which he never expected to recover, and in all probability his expectations would have been realized, had not an old maid, who long studied *midwifery*, and the art of healing sores, been called to his assistance. The cause of this confinement was a stab he received from an old soldier in attempting to call a reflection upon the character of the great and good Washington. As his friend, this last sentence may appear strange; but I am bound to relate facts as they have occurred within my own knowledge. My friend, feeling himself weak and languid, expressed a desire to have his most particular acquaintances called to his bed side, and a servant being dispatched, in less than one hour, Mrs. Quiver, Mrs. Slander, &c. with a few male companions, attended in his room.—Being raised up in his bed, and leaning against a pillow, he thus addressed them:—

"I perceive, my good friends, that you are all distressed at my present unhappy situation, and feel myself greatly comforted at the reflection, that I am still able to give you a few sketches of my extraordinary life. This is the season in which you can reap a large harvest of curiosity, and from the various incidents which will occur, and the unexpected chicanery which, as my pupils, you must see, you may learn in time, like me, "to wield at will the passions of a full assembly." Know then, that in a small and dirty garret, almost impervious to the rays of the sun, was I, Timothee Scandal, the only lineal heir, and direct descendant from Tobias Scandal, Esq; post-ride to his majesty George the third, ushered unwillingly into this world of infelicity. The mighty day of this eventful catastrophe happened, as I have been informed, on the 17th of March, 1775, and the *forefain* garret, which I had almost forgot to tell you, was situated (so say two old maiden cousins, by the name of *Scandalisers*, and probably, my dear Mrs. Slander, acquaintances of yours—"O la! Sir, I know the ladies; one of those unfortunate females, who, not content with simple white and red, must make the experiment of a black mixture, and to the no small astonishment of her friends actually presented them with a yellow picture in nine months—Ha! ha! ha! Yes, I know them,") on the farthest end of a street due east from the Stadt-house, vulgarly called Hell Point.—My mother, (whose maiden name was Rumour,) after being deserted by my father, was roused from her inactivity, and finding herself reduced to the necessity of earning daily subsistence by her needle or her tongue, entered with so much zeal and assiduity upon any employment the good people chose to give her, that she supported the character of a good sort of a woman, and found bread enough to keep me from starving.—I was just turned of my tenth month, and had learnt to articulate plainly, when two old maids called at my mother's, and observing me with great attention, said, "Pray, madam, is that your son?" The affirmation being given by my mother to this question, for she was proud of my progress in pronunciation, and seeing I had a desire to speak, said, "Come, Timmy, and see the ladies," when I, unaccustomed to conceal what I thought, and having but a poor opinion (pardon me, ladies, I have since changed my sentiments,) of the fair sex, roughly answered, "snook her false teeth; mammy, her head's as grey as our old ram's tail, and she has covered it over with lamb's wool." This the fair damsels thought a mark of great penetration, and though secretly chagrined at my uncouth behaviour, determined to take me into favour, that they might in future escape my poignant remarks. Elated beyond description at their praises, I lent them all the assistance in my power, and soon found, to my unspeakable pleasure, that I was frequently the cause of much mischief.—If it happened by accident (for I would not have you

suppose that such things were common in the politeness of Annapolis,) that two neighbouring families quarrelled; I was sure to be the second of both, and little Tim Scandal had the supreme felicity of telling both stories the next day, suiting his tale to his company, and abusing each by turns as he varied his visits; not that I would have you suppose, Scandal, "ever gaping wide," was absent for a moment from the chambers of the fair, for believe me, I possessed that supreme prerogative of kings, the power of ubiquity, but that at times, like an experienced warrior, my nature inclined me to solitude, and I remained concealed behind the rampart of a curtain; every stranger, however, was looked upon with reserved ceremony until he had scraped acquaintance with Mrs. Scandal, and my name, in some instances, proved a salutary salvo, as well as passport to genteel society.—Here he made a pause, and finding himself too weak to proceed, deferred the remaining incidents of his life until another day.—They are fairly transcribed, and shall be offered you the next week.

....."Loeta et fortis surgunt,
"Quippe solo natura subest!" VIRGIL.
PHILO-SCANDAL.

FOR THE MARYLAND GAZETTE.

The Trifler—No. III.

"Si feret in terris rideret Democritus." HOA.
"Democritus would spit his sides with laughter."

THE Trifler having received communications on a subject to which he had intended to dedicate a number, and knowing that the communications were more pertinent than any thing he could offer to the public on the subject, will take the liberty of submitting them to his fellow-citizens as his third number.

TO THE TRIFLER.

SIR,
SINCE the first ages of the world, at least since that period of it when simplicity of manners and plainness of attire were thrown off, man has been more studious of change in dress than of any other concern. He has travelled round the whole globe in quest of variety, and has not contented himself with stopping at any particular stage. There seems to have existed a *sine qua non*, a something farther to acquire, before a period could be put to his peregrinations. That period, I think, has at length arrived, and he has now nothing more to do than to retrace his steps. He is out from the goal of economy, and has again arrived at it; he may now proceed the same dull round without harassing his brain for new inventions. We may rationally conclude this, as he has at length united fashion, convenience and economy, in the introduction of what is termed a "SPENSER." Hereafter let it not be said that Fops are useless animals, or that like drones they only serve to consume the "congesta cibariorum" of the bee-hive; so far from it, every candid and impartial enquirer must acknowledge, that as a part of the community they should be respected for their patriotic endeavours to retrench luxury by introducing a culum that will gratify the desires both of the tatty and economical, without subjecting them to the imputation of singularity. If in the career of fashion they have been compelled to pass through stages of expence and frivolity before they could arrive at the grand *ultimatum* of their designs, they also have supported all the shafts of censure and sarcasm that have been levelled at them, and they alone have incurred the expence. Wherein then consists the criminality of foppery? Does it consist in circumventing the before untrodden path of fashion, not merely to gratify their own fickle fancies, but to promote the welfare of their country? Or does it consist in their fortitude in disregarding the malignant whispers of the censorious which have assailed them in the prosecution of their duty? For my own part I have always thought that as bucks are inoffensive animals they should be permitted to follow their inclinations without interruption. As to the present fashion, (the spenser,) which they have introduced, it is not only innocent but convenient; many a foppish figure is excluded from public view by it—many a fissure and many a rent, under cover of a spenser, are no detriment to a coat. The economical buck, and the buck whose extravagant desires have outlived his resources and credit, more sensibly experience the benefits of a spenser: Ashamed to appear before the scrutinizing eye of the public unless dressed in the ton, they were compelled, by reason of the expence of a new coat, to remain secluded from society a great part of their time, and like the comet could only return periodically to illumine the circle of fashion; but now like the central planet of our world, they shine with unfading light, except a few partial eclipses of their lustre, which may originate from some unlucky fall or other disastrous misfortune.

JONATHAN MAINCHANCE.

I shall conclude with another letter, on the same subject, which I received a few days since from a single lady of my acquaintance, though a little antiquated.

Mr. Trifler,

"A young gentleman, (my relation,) came to my house on a visit the last week; as usual his countenance, which I have ever found to be the index of his mind, expressed much inward satisfaction, and indeed he seemed blessed at the time with an unusual flow of spirits. I was not in the least surprised at it, until I discovered that his furtout was shorter than usual by the skirts. I concluded that some change for the worse had taken place in his fortunes, which together with his bizarre and fantastical figure, suggested the following reflections: "Happy fellow, said I, who can thus wear the smiles of prosperity whilst the clouds of adversity hover round thy head! What unanimity of temper must thou possess! How great must be thy fortitude! Does not the resentment of human nature boil within thee at the prying curiosity of the public, whilst viewing, (perhaps with contempt,) what was once a decent covering for thy body? No!—thy countenance tells me thy soul soars superior to their malicious scrutines." I was suddenly interrupted in these reflections by his asking me if I had not yet discovered his *spenser*, (pointing to this mutilated part of his dress,) informing me "was all the go, and that not to have a *spenser* was to be *fashionably dead*." In a moment the high opinion I had formed of his unanimity and fortitude fled, and instead of lending him a part of one of my under petticoats, (which I had predetermined to do,) to supply what I supposed accident had deprived him of, I was half inclined to let him feel the weight of a horse-whip.

Yours, OLIVIA PROUDANCE.

P. S. Be so obliging, Mr. Trifler, if my opinion as to the spenser should unfortunately differ from yours, not to make it public; as many of my female acquaintances who are overburthened with spleen, would snatch at the opportunity of taking from me that defence in point of tale which has hitherto been their own.

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